

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NEWS

The Monthly Electronic Newsletter of
Homeland Security and Emergency Management
N.H. Department of Safety, John J. Barthelmes, Commissioner
33 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03305
1-800-852-3792

newsletters@dos.nh.gov

October 2011



Senate President Peter E. Bragdon, R-Milford, received a briefing on executive responsibilities during disasters on a visit to HSEM on Oct. 27. Under New Hampshire's constitution, the Senate president becomes acting governor if the sitting governor is unable to serve.

SEABROOK SIREN DEMONSTRATION SET – Seabrook Station and public safety officials in the Seabrook Emergency Planning Zone will conduct an audible demonstration of the nuclear plant's warning sirens on Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 12:30 p.m. This is the fourth consecutive year that the siren demonstration will be done. It is intended to acquaint the public with the sound of the sirens in the event of an emergency at Seabrook. As in previous years, a public information campaign is being conducted in advance of the test to ensure that members of the public know that the siren sounding is only a test. That is especially important this year because one week in advance of the Seabrook siren demonstration, there will be a first-ever national test of the Emergency Alert System. Officials are working to ensure that the back-to-back tests don't cause public concern about a real emergency of some kind.

The Seabrook system consists of 121 sirens, 94 of which are in New Hampshire and 27 in Massachusetts.

VY SIRENS INADVERTENTLY SOUNDED – A technician for a Vermont Yankee vendor accidentally triggered all 37 of the nuclear plant's emergency sirens around 11:30 a.m. on Oct. 26. The sirens sounded for about three minutes. Several schools in the Brattleboro area went into lockdown until it was established that the siren activation was a false alarm. HSEM notified New Hampshire emergency management and public safety officials and the public of the inadvertent activation

MEMORIAL HELD FOR DIRECTOR BARRETT - A memorial was held aboard the MS Mount Washington on Oct. 24 for David T. Barrett, director of Safety Services, who died Oct. 18 after a brief battle with cancer. He was 64. Director Barrett was the longest-serving divisional director in the Department of Safety. He was named to the post in 1992 after a distinguished career in law enforcement in New Hampshire and California. As director of Safety Services, he oversaw the N.H. Marine Patrol and tramway and amusement ride inspectors.

FORMER DIRECTOR IVERSON DIES – Former N.H. Emergency Management Director Col. George Iverson died at his home in Hampton on Oct. 11. He was 85 years old. Col. Iverson served as director of what was then the Governor's Office of Emergency Management from 1989-1998. Born in Portland and raised in Maine, Col. Iverson joined the N.H. State Police in 1955 and rose through the ranks. He retired as director of the Division of State Police in 1989.

IED CLASS SCHEDULED AT POLICE ACADEMY – An Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Counterterrorism Workshop will be held at Police Standards & Training, 17 Institute Drive, Concord on Tuesday, Nov.1, 2011, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. There is no charge for this workshop. To register, complete and fax or mail the General Admission Application to the N.H. Fire Academy. form The form is at: http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/documents/GenAdmissApp.pdf. Use the CREF number 12-5-ODP-15 when completing the application form.

SAVE THE DATE FOR EMERGENCY CONFERENCE – The eighth annual N.H. Emergency Preparedness Conference will be held on Tuesday, June 26, 2012. The location and details of the conference will be announced later. The day-long conference brings together emergency responders from across the state to explore a wide spectrum of emergency management topics using an all-hazards approach. The conference provides excellent opportunities for training and networking with local experts and practitioners from fields such as emergency management, public health, fire, EMS, law enforcement, business, healthcare, local government, public works, schools, social services and volunteer groups.

FIRE SAFETY SEEKING INFORMATION ON HAZMAT – The N.H. Division of Fire Safety is conducting a survey of the capabilities of the state's hazmat teams and of state agencies and local fire departments to support their operations. The information will be used to identify gaps in service and to help target future expenditures. The Division is asking representatives of all hazmat units, state agencies with hazmat responsibilities and local fire departments to participate in the survey.

This is a web-based survey. To participate, visit the website https://www.ttclients.com/nhsurvey/requestaccount.cfm and request an account. More than one individual within an agency may access the same survey over the course of the project. However, there is only one survey for each agency participating in the project. Then go to: https://www.ttclients.com/nhsurvey/login.cfm?logout=1 and complete your agency's survey. The survey opened on Sept. 12 and will remain open for approximately 6 weeks.

SBA DEADLINE FOR DAMAGE DISASTER LOANS APPROACHES – Private non-profit (PNP) organizations in six New Hampshire counties have until Nov. 2 to apply for Small Business Administration loans for physical damage suffered during Tropical Storm Irene. Schools and colleges, museums, food kitchens and other non-profits in Carroll, Coös, Grafton, Merrimack, Strafford and Sullivan counties are eligible for low interest loans of up to \$2 million. Interest rates are as low as 3 percent with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

Disaster loan information may be obtained by calling the SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 or by sending an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Applications can also be downloaded from www.sba.gov. PNPs affected by the disaster may also apply for disaster loans electronically from SBA's website at https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/.

SBA LOANS AVAILABLE FOR ECONOMIC INJURY – The U.S. Small Business Administration is making available low interest loans to businesses, agricultural cooperatives and most non-profit organizations in Western New Hampshire. The loans are for economic injury in Coös, Grafton and Sullivan counties that resulted from heavy rains and flooding that began on April 1, 2011. Those counties are eligible for the SBA assistance because they are contiguous to Vermont counties that received a primary disaster declaration. The deadline for loan applications is May 21, 2012. See story above for SBA contact information



Keep up with emergency preparedness information in New Hampshire on www.readynh,nh.gov and Twitter.com/ReadyNH.